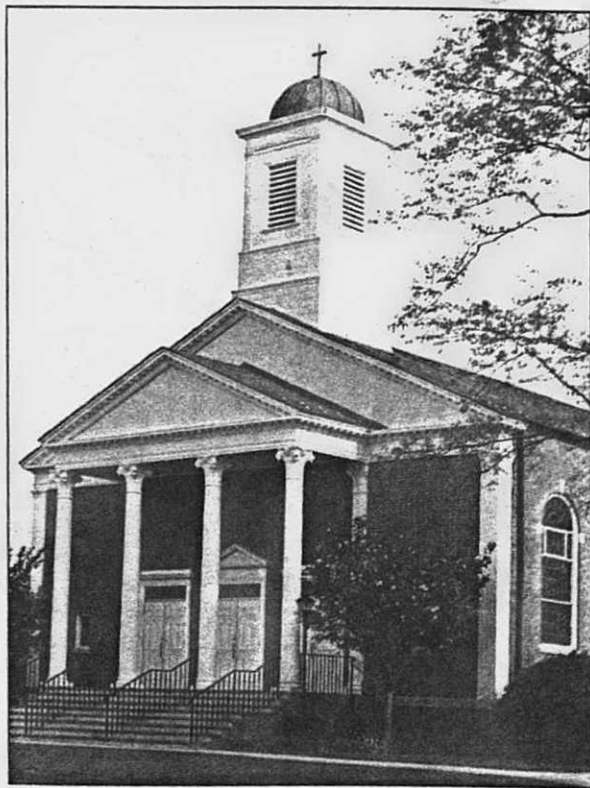Ernest J. Siska, 1975–80; Rev. Stephen Getlik, 1980–84; Rev. Kalman Miskolczy, Sch.P., 1984–87; Rev. Dominic L. Csorba, O.F.M., 1987–89; Rev. Eugene A. Lenner, O.F.M., 1989–90; Rev. Ivan J. Paldeak, O.F.M., 1990–92; Rev. Francis Zalewski, 1992–present.

PARISHES OUTSIDE THE CITY OF TRENTON

Allentown, Saint John the Baptist

Masses were celebrated in the Greater Allentown area by Rev. Joseph Biggio, pastor of St. Mary's in Bordentown, as early as 1857. In 1869, Rev. Patrick Leonard purchased Christ Episcopal Church, which would serve as St. John the Baptist's Church for 87 years. Established as an independent parish on July 26, 1878, St. John's received its first pastor, Rev. Joseph Borghese. By 1885, the parish had its own cemetery. Rev. James Hendricks moved the church building adjacent to the rectory during his pastorate. Despite additions and renovations, a new church became needed, was constructed, and was blessed on January 22, 1956. While Rev. Edward Atzert was pastor, he constructed a library and convent.

Several religious communities of women have served the people of Allentown. For a few years, parishioners weekly brought two Sisters of Mercy from St. Mary's Cathedral to teach catechism to the children. From 1948 to 1973, the Daughters of the Heart

Church of Saint John the Baptist, Allentown

of Mary staffed a Regional Catechetical Center in Allentown that provided religious instruction for nearby parishes without parochial schools. The Missionary Sisters of Verona, now called the Comboni Sisters, taught the children from 1974 to 1982. The library is now the center of religious instruction, and the convent houses the Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia, who have taught the children since 1982.

Pastors: Rev. Joseph Borghese, 1878–79; Rev. Stanislaus Danielou, 1879–85; Rev. Thomas McCormack, 1885–86; Rev. Michael O'Donnell, 1886–89; Rev. William Lynch, 1889–95; Rev. Thomas McLaughlin, 1895–98; Rev. James Hendricks, 1898–99; Rev. John A. Lawrence, 1899–1904; Rev. Peter Kelly,